

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's finding of allowable subject matter in dependent claim 3. In response to the Office Action, Applicants have rewritten dependent claim 3 in independent form. As such, rewritten claim 3 includes the subject matter of claim 1, from which claim 3 depended. Applicants have cancelled claim 1 and amended claim 2 to now depend from claim 3. Applicants respectfully submit that rewritten independent claim 3, and claim 2 which depends therefrom, are now allowable.

Also with respect to amended claim 3, to clarify the phrase in line 4 that read "sequentially from the upstream", Applicants now claim that the regulator is located at an upstream side from the valve. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph has now been overcome.

Further in this Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification at page 10 with the paragraph beginning at line 6. In the provided substitute paragraph, Applicants have amended the word "by-path" to now read "bypass," as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's objection to the specification has now been overcome.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance with claims 2 and 3 being allowable. If there are any questions

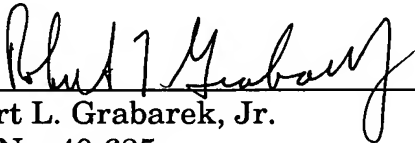
regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the
Docket No: 038685.55140US

undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any such fee or any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket 038685.55140US).

Respectfully submitted,
CROWELL & MORING LLP

Dated: October 31, 2005

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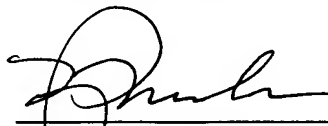
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Maria N. Sausedo

10/31/2005

Date